(b) whether there is any plan to upgrade the Patna and Gaya airports to facilitate the pilgrim travel; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Steps are taken to boost tourism at pilgrim places including Gaya from time to time based on the tourist forecast and availability of resources etc.

(b) Various development works like construction of new integrated Terminal Building, Car Park, apron, link taxiways, Isolation Bay and associated pavements with all modern amenities to cater to 500 passengers at a time have been taken at Gaya airport.

At Patna airport the work of extension of runway is subject to clearance for pruning of trees from State Government of Bihar. However, the existing Terminal Building at Patna airport is having peak hours capacity of 400 passengers at time with all modern facilities to meet the requirements of passenger/pilgrim traffic.

(c) Does not arise.

Air service between Dhaka and Guwahati

3186. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Bangladesh is planning to introduce a new direct air service between Dhaka and Guwahati to boost the trade ties with the North-East;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the GMC Airlines of Bangladesh held discussions with officials of the Ministry to begin the service to North-East; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No such information is available with the Government of India.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Development of Airport at Adampur

3187. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Adampur (Punjab), military air base at present is ideally suitable for the development of a civilian international airport; and

(b) if so, whether Government are considering any proposal in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) There is no proposal at present to develop a civil airport at Adampur in Punjab. However, the State Government of Punjab has a proposal for setting up a domestic/ international air terminal at Halwara airport which belongs to the Indian Air Force.

Incidents of tyre burst of aircraft

3188. SHRIMATI S. G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently several incidents of tyre bursts of aircrafts took place;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that recently several planes had to be landed in emergency due to technical defects; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (d) Seven incidents of tyre bursts and nine cases of emergency landing due to technical defect were reported to Directorate General of Civil Aviation between November, 2005 and April, 2006.